UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.1/51/14
14 November 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
FIRST COMMITTEE

Letter dated 13 November 1996 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I write to draw your attention to document A/C.1/51/13 dated 28 October 1996 circulate at the request of the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations.

In this connection, I reproduce below extracts from a statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Government of India on 12 November 1996:

> "Pakistan has circulated a memorandum on Conference on Peace and Security, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation in South Asia is the First Committee during the fifty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly. India remains committed to developing peaceful and friendly relations with all countries in its neighbourhood including Pakistan. In keeping with the conviction that all outstanding issues can be resolved through peaceful means and bilateral discussions, India has put forward a number of proposals. Practical steps are needed to enhance confidence between the two countries, reduce mistrust and create an environment which will enable the people in both countries to work together for a more prosperous and secure future. India has urged Pakistan that the Foreign Secretary level dialogue between the two countries, which stands suspended since January 1994, be resumed at the earliest."

The Government of India believes that repackaging an old proposal which has been rejected earlier is not a sign of serious intent. India's response to a similar earlier proposal was circulate in the Conference on Disarmament on 23 August 1991 (CD/1109, dated 28 August 1991). In keeping with this consistent approach, India has, at the highest levels, invited Pakistan to resumed dialogue for a peaceful solution of all outstanding issues.

I should be grateful if the present letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Prakash SHAH
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of India
to the United Nations